



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

Leader in  
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## E-Legislative Update

March 9, 2012



The state Legislature ended the regular session on Thursday without an agreement on how to close a \$1 billion budget shortfall. Governor Gregoire is asking the Legislature to reconvene at noon on Monday for a special session.

Yesterday, the House passed a new budget which contains no cuts to K-12 or higher education and preserves a program known as Disability Lifeline, a welfare and health-care program for unemployable adults who aren't covered

by social security benefits. The House proposal would also delay a payment to K-12 schools by a day, pushing it into the next two-year budget and saving \$330 million in the current biennium.

The Senate budget does not include a delay in payment to K-12 schools and has about \$74 million in reductions to K-12 and higher education. It eliminates Disability Lifeline. The proposal also skips a \$133 million payment toward funding older, closed pension plans for teachers and state workers.

Budget proposals can be viewed [here](#).

There is still an opportunity to voice your opinion on the budget by [contacting your legislator](#). You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

Because the state budget is an overarching issue, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs provides updates on important milestones in budget development as well as focuses on bills that impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the areas of education, health care, human services, economic development, and immigration.

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs provides information weekly through our e-legislative update and website on committee hearings, bills, and other events of interest throughout the legislative session. Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the community while our website hosts a more extensive list of bills utilizing a [bill tracking](#) feature for those community members seeking more information. Highlights from the previous week can be viewed on [TVW's Legislative Review](#).

Bills passed by the legislature and delivered to the Governor can be viewed [here](#).

Information is current as of: March 9, 2012.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

**CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.**

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).